

New Shoreham Deer Task Force
Monday, April 8, 2013
Town Hall, Old Town Road
6:30 p.m.

Present: Ruth Perfido, Lisa Sprague, Paul Deane, George Mellor, Becky Ballard, Bill McKernan and Sara McGinnes. Also present were Judy Tierney from the Block Island Times, and Millie McGinnes to take the minutes.

Not Present: Alternate Betsey Theve.

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

1. Public input – None at this time.

2. Approval of minutes from March 11, 2013 and March 26, 2013

Mr. Mellor moved to approve the minutes of March 11, 2013 and March 26, 2013. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ballard and carried.

Ayes 6 (Perfido, Sprague, Deane, Mellor, Ballard, McKernan, McGinnes) Nays 0

Absent 2 (Deane, Theve)

3. New Business

- Discussion re: Formation of Citizens Support Group - fundraising, attendance at Town Council meetings, letter writing and the like – Paul Deane joined the meeting at 6:40 p.m. It was decided to create a Citizens Support Group. Becky Ballard will collect names of interested parties through a letter and/or classified ad in the Block Island Times and a posting on the Block Island Bulletin Board. Ms. McGinnes moved to appoint Bill McKernan as the contact person for BIRA. The motion was seconded by Becky Ballard. The motion was later amended by Ms. McGinnes, seconded by Ms. Ballard to appoint Bill McKernan as the contact person for BIRA and Block Island Gardeners. The amendment and the motion both carried.
Ayes 6 (Perfido, Sprague, Deane, Mellor, Ballard, McKernan, McGinnes) Nays 0
Absent 2 (Deane, Theve)
- Election of Treasurer – Discussion and possible vote – Sara McGinnes volunteered to contact Town Finance Director Amy Land to discuss finance issues associated with fundraising.
- Communication with Town Council - It was noted that a portion of the Task Force will meet with Kathy Sparks of the DEM on April 17th and further Town Council communication will be determined after that meeting.

4. Ongoing Business

- Discussion re: recommendation to Town Council of Modified Skidaway Plan and 2013-2014 Hunting Season – The Task Force decided to wait until after the meeting with DEM to provide more details to the Skidaway plan. George Mellor and Sara McGinnes will reach out to a couple of contacts involved in the Skidaway Plan project to garner updated information and statistics.

The group took a five minute recess at 7:10 p.m.

- Discussion re: selection of liaisons for public officials and governmental agencies
 - DEM/US Fish and Wildlife/Town of New Shoreham/BIMC/USDA Wildlife Services/RI Dept. of Health
 - Federal and State elected officials
 - Yale

This item was tabled.

- 2013 Managed Hunts
 - Discussion on final statistics for Rodman's Hollow, US Fish and Wildlife and town property Plat 20, Lot 20 and BIC Plat 3, Lot 86-4 Hunts

This item was tabled.

- Website – Sara – Sara McGinnes distributed printouts of the Fairfield County Coalition's website homepage. She asked members to look at the links and determine if there are items there that they would like to see on the Deer Task Force website. It was suggested that a small "Did you know..." article be written for the Block Island Times on a regular basis. Becky Ballard will ask the paper if they would allow room for such.
- Fundraising Report – Lisa Sprague – Ms. Sprague reported that it may be possible to use BIRA to collect tax-free donations on behalf of Task Force. Ms. McGinnes will explore this further when she meets with the Finance Director.

5. Discuss next steps

Ms. McGinnes suggested that the group begin to address safety concerns associated with a Skidaway Plan type hunt. Discussion ensued regarding research and statistics that would be beneficial to address such concerns.

6. Next meeting

- **May 13th at 6:30**

The group set a special meeting for Friday, May 3, 2013 at 2:00.

At 8:12 p.m. a motion was made by George Mellor and seconded by Paul Deane to adjourn and voted unanimously.

Millie McGinnes

Minutes approved: